

CLAIMS:

1. A ventricular patch adapted for placement into the left ventricle of a heart, comprising:
  - a sheet of biocompatible material, and
  - a plurality of markings coupled to the sheet, wherein the markings are configured in distinct patterns for post operatively evaluating movement of the patch.
2. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the movement of the patch is measured along a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis of the patch.
3. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the biocompatible material is selected from the group consisting of bovine pericardium, porcine tissue, and polyester.
4. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the biocompatible material is collagen impregnated.
5. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are radio-paque.
6. The ventricular patch of claim 5 wherein the biocompatible material is formed of threads produced by co-extruding the fabric with radiopaque polymeric material.
7. The ventricular patch of claim 5 wherein the biocompatible material is formed of threads made from a mixture of polymeric material and barium sulfate.
8. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are metal threads.
9. The ventricular patch of claim 8 wherein the metal threads are selected from the group consisting of gold, nitinol, platinum, and stainless steel.

10. The ventricular patch of claim 5 wherein the markings are imprinted on the material with radiopaque ink.

11. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are MRI scan sensitive.

12. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are coupled to the material using mechanical means.

13. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are coupled to the material using adhesive means.

14. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings are imprinted by ion deposition.

5407 15. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings form a plurality of equally spaced substantially parallel lines. A

16. The ventricular patch of claim 15 wherein the spacing between the parallel lines is one centimeter.

5403 17. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings form a uniform grid of horizontal and vertical lines. B

18. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings form a pattern of equally spaced concentric circles having different diameters. C

19. The ventricular patch of claim 1 wherein the markings form a pattern of lines radiating from a single point. D

20. A method for reconstructing an enlarged left ventricle of a human heart, the method comprising:

opening the enlarged left ventricle,

reforming the enlarged left ventricle,

determining the size and shape of the opening,

determining the size and shape of an appropriate patch, wherein the patch comprises a sheet of biocompatible material having a plurality of markings coupled to the sheet, wherein the markings are configured in distinct patterns for post operatively evaluating lateral and traverse movement of the patch, and

closing the opening using the patch, such that the enlarged left ventricle is reconstructed into a shape and volume of an appropriate left ventricle.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising post operatively evaluating movement of the patch using imaging technology.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the evaluating step includes measuring along a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the imaging technology is x-ray technology.

24. The method of claim 20 wherein the imaging technology is MRI technology.

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